(14)

THE DEPLORABLE TRAGEDY OF FLORIS

The Fifth of that Name,

EARLE of

HOLLAND, ZEALAND,

And

Lord of FRISLAND.

As it hath been Sejunctly left us by a Learned *Netherlander*: And is now digested into this entire piece.

By G. T. Esq;

LONDON,

Printed for Charles Webb at the *Bore's Head* in St Paul's Church yard. 1659.

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TO

My honorable friend M^r. *CHARLES FAIRFAX.*

SIR,

TO render an account for the preſent dedication, ſince there was a dying ſeis'd of the firſt originall copy, in your highly valued Brother, who now remaines at *Frankenthal* upon the bed of honour; it unavoidably ſo pinn'd me up, that I could not impropriate

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what once he pleaſ'd to reckon his, from the name of *Fairfax*. And though for quantity it may ſeem diſproportionable, and but a poor, and petty quillet ; yet are not reliques ſo much accounted of, for the multitude of graines, and caracts, as their neer relation, and predependence; neither can I be diffident, but what was his, whom you ſo dearly loved, will under a benigne aſpect, be thus preſented you, by

Your old and moſt humble

Friend and Servant

GEO. TOOKE.

WHereas I have lately publiſh'd a little tract named the Eagle-truſſer's Elegie, which though in ſtyle but proportionable to the heroick ſubject there treated, are yet thought too difficult and high for the common paines to get over, I have here again adventur'd upon this petty piece both of eaſier aſcent, and juſtyfying alſo that his ſhop (as was there premiſed) is fitly furniſhed with cloath for all degrees, as well for Codrus & Craſſus as for Cyrus, neither can I deſpaire, but this adventure of mine may propitiouſly officiat to the content both of the author and benevolent reader, to whom I reſt.

To

TO uſher in this monſtrous Tragedie, with as prodigious a miracle, not diſſevering ſo neer and ſtrange occurrences; *Floris* the fourth of that name, Earl of *Holland*, *Zeland*, and Lord of *Frieſland*, when leaving the world. Anno 1294. left alſo a very remarkable iſſue behind him; witneſſe his Eldeſt Son *William* who ſucceeded, and atchieving far beyond his predeceſſors, was alſo King of the Romans; nor Crown'd alone at *Aken*, but ſo victoriouſly in his firſt conteſt with the Flemiſh, that *Matthew Paris* (an author interimly living) will have them and their french aids then ſlain and taken, reported for an hundred thouſand; and of ſuch ſucceſſe again in their ſecond encounter, as ſubjected the violent Flaunders Counteſſe and her Son *Guy Dampire* to receive conditions; but his concluſion ſorted farre otherwiſe and rather to ſhew the brittleneſſe of all terrene ſerenity, for thus did he ſet at length in a ſullen cloud, and amongſt his rebellious ſubjects the *Frieſes* his *Roman* royalty being electorated upon Richard Earl of *Cornwall* the ſecond Son of *Floris* the fourth is ſaid to patrizare both in name and valour having alſo victoriouſly much of Mars

in him, nor leſſe of Mercury, as was made out in the nonage of his Nephew, by a providential managing the State; his daughter *Aliidt* married *John* of *Aueſnes* Earl of *Henegaw*, thus annexing this principality to the houſe of *Holland*; but that of his daughter *Margarets* 365. Children was the very wonder of the time, and ſince diſlending upon us, ſo dangerouſly controverted, I muſt here a little inlarge my ſelfe examining witneſſes upon the poynt, and firſt as an old leading card interrogating firſt the *Hollands* chronicle, which, Chapter the tenth, diviſion the nineteenth, returns in atteſtation.

That grave *Floris* the fourth of that name, had alſo amongſt other Children, a daughter named *Machtelt*, whom he gave in marriage to *Haermon* Earl of *Hennenbough* that her brother was *William* King of the *Romans*; *Otto* Biſhop of *Utrecht*, and *Henry* D. of *Brabant*, her Uncles, the firſt by the fathers ſide, *Henry* by the Mothers; that *Alijdt* Counteſſe of *Henegaw* was her Siſter, and *Otto* Earl of *Gelders*, with his brother *Henry* Biſhop of *Luick* her Nephews. This Lady, obſerving a poor Widow, who with two little twins in her boſome, was in the ſtreet begging the charity of well-diſpoſed people; could not detain from upbraiding her with diſhoneſty, affirming it impoſſible to have more Children at a birth, then one, by one and the ſame man; to which the poor ſoul replyed again, that the Divine power might yet accompliſh

accompliſh any thing at pleaſure ; but the Counteſſe perſiſting ſtill incredulous, after many reproachfull ſpeeches, enforced her with diſgrace from her preſence; whereupon, this poor diſtreſſed woman, lifting her eyes to Heaven, humbly entreated of God Almighty, that the Counteſſe alſo might have as many Children at a birth, as there were dayes in the year; and thus it afterwards befell. For the Counteſſe conceiving by her Husband, and comming down into *Holland* ; to her Nephew *Floris* the fifth, at *Looſduine* ; became there ſo prodigiouſly great, as neither eye nor ear had ever notice of the like: upon our Ladies day in Lent, being *Good Friday. Anno.* 1276. ſhe fell in Travel, and was delivered of three hundred ſixty five Children, all proportionable, and of requiſite members ; which were chriſtn'd in a baſon, by her Uncle *Otto* Biſhop of *Utrecht*, the men children were named *John*, the women *Elizabeth*; and inſtantly after Baptiſme, with their Lady Mother departed this life, they vvere all buried together in the cloyſter of *Looſduine*, as appeareth at this day by an inſcription in the ſame place, over their grave, the which enſues thus.

En tibi monſtroſum nimis & memorabile factum,
quale nec à mundi conditione datum,
Hæc lege, mox animo ſtupefactus, lector abibis.

Margareta Hermanni Comitis Hennenbergiæ uxor, quarti Florentii Comitis Hollandiæ & Zelandiæ filia, Gulielmi Regis Romanorum, ac poſtea Cæſaris

ſeu Gubernatoris Imperii, atque Alitheiæ Comitis Hannoniæ ſoror, cujus patruus Epiſcopus Trajectenſis, avunculi autem filius Dux Brabantiæ, & Comes Thuringiæ Hæc autem Illuſtriſſima Comitiſſa annos quadraginta duos circiter nata, ipſo die Paraſceves nonam circiter horam, anno milleſimo, ducenteſſimo ſeptuageſſimo ſexto, trecentos ſexaginta quinque enixa eſt pueros, qui prius à Guidone Suffraganeo Trajectenſi omnes in duobus ex ære pelvibus baptizati ſunt : quorum maſculi quot quot erant Joannes, puellæ autem omnes Elizabethæ vocatæ ſunt, qui ſimul omnes cum matre uno eodémque die fatis conceſſerunt, atque in hoc Lauſdunenſi templo ſepulti jacent. Quod quidem accidit ob pauperculam quandam fœminam, quæ ex uno partu gemellos in ulnis geſtabat pueros : quam rem ipſa Comitiſſa admirata, dicebat, id per unum virum fieri non poſſe, ipſámque contumelioſe rejecit. Unde hæc papercula animo perturbata, ac perculſa, mox tantum prolium numerum ac multitudinem ex uno partu ipſa imprecabatur, quot vel totius anni dies numerantur. Quod quidem præter naturæ curſum obſtupenda quadam ratione ita factum eſt; ſicuti hic in perpetuam hujus rei memoriam ex vetuſtis, tam manuſcriptis, quam typis excuſis, Chronicis breviter poſitum & enarratum eſt. Deus ille ter maximus hac de re ſuſpiciendus, honorandus, ac laudibus extollendus in ſempiterna ſecula. Amen. Thus far the *Hollands* Chronicle, *&c.*

The ſaid writing tranſlated alſo into Dutch, ſtands to be ſeene betwixt two Copper baſons in the Church at *Looſduine*, being of many that viſit that place in reſpect of the miracle, dayly copied out.

out. But that it has continued there for many ages, cannot ſo ſecurely be avouched; nay 'tis well enough known, that ſince the Netherland troubles, this Table has been renewed and changed from what it was, and that a Freiſe Manuſcript, written by brother *Peter* of *Tabor*, above an hundred years paſt, places another Epitaph, namely certain verſes over the miraculous Mothers Tomb, which enſue thus.

D'onſpreekelicke Godes kracht
Wachmen menighſms wel mercken,
Want eens een Frouken Woortbracht
Twee kinder te ſamen inden wercken
Dat verwonderde heut vrouw Margriet, &c.

Their Effect in our Language is rendred as followeth.

By ſundry ſtrange examples, are we led
To ponder Gods incomprehenſive might;
As one of which, when once a woman bred
Two Children at a birth, and Margarite
Dutcheſs of Hennenbergh, *much wondring ſaid,*
That ſure a Woman being ſingly known,
And but by one ſole man could alſo bear but one.

High God injoyning it ſhould ſo befall,
Lo ſhe her ſelfe, three hundred ſixty four
All at the ſame prodigious burthen all
By one peculiar man, ſoon after bore.
Great Biſhop Guy, *baptiz'd theſe Children ſmall*

Within a Baſon bright; and at the Fount
There witneſſ'd many dames, and Princes of account:

Orecom by ſuch ſurcharge the Mother dyed.
To William choſen Almaynes *King, and born*
The Prince of Holland, *ſhe was neer allyed;*
At nine of clock upon Good-Friday morne
Sh' expir'd, the year of it is ſpecified
To be that of one thouſand, hundreds twain,
And ſeventy ſix: ô let her ſoul for ever raign.

This old inſcription differs apparently from the former; nay that Copy which *Junius* has cited in the twentieth Chapter of his *Batavia*, runs likewiſe otherwiſe, as followeth.

MArgareta Hermanni Comitis Hennenbergiæ uxor, illuſtris Domini Florentii Comitis Hollandiæ filia, cujus mater fuit Mathildis filia Henrici Ducis Brabantiæ, fratrem quoque habuit Gulielmum Alemanniæ Regem: hæc præfata Domina Margareta, anno M CC LXXVI. *ætatis ſuæ anno quadrageſimo ſecundo, ipſo die Paraſceves, hora nona ante meridiem, peperit infantes vivos promiſcui ſexûs numero trecentos ſexaginta quatuor: qui poſtquam per venerabilem Epiſcopum Dominum Guidonem Suffraganeum, præſentibus nonnullis Proceribus & Magnatibus, in pelvi quadam baptiſmi ſacramentum percepiſſent, & maſculis Johannes, fœmellis verò nomen Heliſabeth impoſitum fuiſſet, ipſorum omnium ſimul cum matris animæ ad Deum æternaliter victuræ redierunt, corpora autem ſub hoc ſaxo requieſcunt.*

Margaret

Margaret wife to Count *Hermon* of *Henenbergh*; daughter to the renouned Lord *Floris* Earle of *Holland*; who had to Mother *Machtelt* daughter to *Henry* Duke of *Brabant*, as alſo to her brother *William* King of *Almaine*: this aforeſaid Lady *Margaret anno* 1276, being then of the age of fourty two years old did upon *Good-Friday* about nine of the clock in the forenoone bring forth 364 living children of both ſexes, which in a baſon, and before many noble perſons, were after chriſten'd by the reverend Biſhop Lord *Guy* Suffragan: the Males were named *Iohn*, the Females *Elizabeth*; whoſe ſoules together with their Mothers returned to God there to live for ever, but for their bodies they reſt peaceably under this ſtone.

Now howſoever there is in God no ſhadow of change, neither can his arme be ſhortned, but he remaines to day as yeſterday, ſtill overruling nature, or working beſide it, or againſt it, at his own good will and pleaſure; and therefore this marvellous narration ſeemes not raſhly to be rejected. Yet conſidering how ſparingly the milk of miracles has been imparted, ſince the childhood of the Church; and to moderate ſome ſuch as make an idoll of tradition, peremptorily relying upon whatſoever ſhe produces; it ſhall not be amiſs, that the weight and certainty of this report, be yet a little further ſifted and examin'ed.

Therefore to proceed with the diſagreement amongſt ancient writers, both concerning the yeare,

and

and ſunry other circumſtances of this wonderfull Mother. Our *Hollands* Chronicle, in the ſeventeenth diviſion, chapt. the eleventh, amongſt the children of *Floris* the fourth, names *Margaret* for wife to Count *Haerman* of *Hennenbourgh*; with which both *Snoyus*, and *Bokenbergius* alſo concurre: and after in the nineteenth diviſion, the tenth chapter, (formerly inſerted verbatim,) calls her againe *Machtilt*. *Iohn Beca* both in his latine relation, and in durch alſo, names her *Machtilt*; *Heda Mechtildis comitis Hennenbergiæ uxor*, which is accordingly ſeconded by *Iohn Cuſpinian*, and then againe by *Meyerus*, who likewiſe adding further, ſaies that both thoſe miſtake who writ her *Margaret*, and ſuch as will attribute this miraculous birth to the yeare 1314; for though indeed one named *Guy*, brother alſo to *Iohn* the ſecond of that name Prince of *Holland*, (namely *Guydo Avienſis*) was at that time Biſhop of *Utrecht*; yet whoſoever ſettles upon this relation, does by thus concluding of the Biſhop, loſe the Mother; ſince our *Margaret*, or *Machteld* Counteſſe of *Hennenbourgh*, lived ſo diſtant from that age, that both the Annals of *Brabant*, and a Chronicler cited likewiſe by *Marcus* of *Vaernwick*, will confine this wonderfull birth to the year 1244. nay the ſame *Vaernwick*, (a thing which differs yet againe from the former,) will quote the little *Hollands* Chronicle aſcribing it to the year 1266. and then the great one with the cronicle of *Brabant* brother *Peters* epitaph, & the relation of *Junius* fore repea-

repeated) to that of 1276; this laſt the rather ſucceding, becauſe they will dreame yet again of another contemporary Biſhop *Otto* of the Hollands bloud; or (rather as ſome will) his ſuffagran *Guy* then miniſtring the Sacrament of Baptiſme; but if the regiſter of thoſe Biſhops be true, this againe muſt of neceſſity be falſe; the Lord *Iohn* of *Naſſaw*, being at that ſame time inveſted with the ſtoole of *Utrecht*. the 39th. Biſhop of that Sea, continuing in it, from 1267 till 1287; his predeceſſor was the Lord *Hemy* of *Viana*, and as touching *Otto* before cited, hee was but the 36th. Biſhop in that liſt, nor may be admitted as of any privity with this miracle: neither is her deceaſe of any directer certainty, for howſoever moſt writers are of opinion, that the children being baptiſed, were with their mother arreſted preſently by the powerfull hand of death; yet the Belgick Chronicle, found in the library of *Iohn Piſtorius*, affirmes, that ſhe ſurvived longer, not expiring till the year 1277, and *Heda* protracts the time of her deceaſe till 1278 which contrariety ſtill continues the relation more queſtionable. Then again concerning the number of her children, ſome there are which ſpeak of three hundred ſixty five, as many as the yeare has dayes; others will have but three hundred ſixty foure, an equall number both of Males and Females unleſſe there might be an Hermaphrodite amongſt them, which has bin whimſied alſo, nay *Iohn Cuſpinian* (if his Copie bee not corrupted by the Scribe or

Printer) informes us but of 350; Beyond all which, it may be ſome hinderance alſo to the currant admiſſion of this ſtory, that neither the rithm-Chronicler, (an authentick Writer of the ſame times) nor *Beca*, flouriſhing not long after, ſhould once glance at ſuch a remarkable paſſage. In fine (and which is unanſwerable) If we ſearch into their pedegree there can no *Harman*, or Earle of other name, bee found amongſt all the Counts of *Hennenbourgh*, that has wedded any daughter of the houſe, and Princes of *Holland*. And again what man ſo credulous, as to conceite a woman of her breeding ſo ignorant? could the ſight of two twins become ſo ſtrange a Novelty? or are the Hollanders ſo blockiſh and voyd of obſervation, above other nations? even their uſuall experience will teſtifie the contrary, and it befalls amongſt them, that women have often three, nay ſometime four at the ſame birth.

Gulielmus, *Hermanus*, *Gaudanus*, with *Sonyus* his Countrie-man and Sectator, do both object for confirmation of this Hiſtory, that the houſe of *Poroyen*, or *Pueroyen* ſcituate between the Rivers of *Maze* and *Wale*, neere *Bomell*, and haveing in it as many Windowes as the yeare dayes was ſo named *quaſi arx puerorum*; but this argument availes little, for in ancient roules & inſtruments, it remainsnot *Poroyen*, but *Poderoyen*. So that as an abridgment of the premiſes, ſince this miraculous Mother is found ſo full of noiſe and litigation; ſince both her name; her

her time of childing, the number of her iſſue, her deceaſe, and husbands lineage are ſo repugnantly preſented; the contemporary Chroniclers, and of cleareſt reputation, giving alſo no ſmalleſt hint of any ſuch prodigie, we muſt rather be cautious; concluding, that at a ſuddain glance, and without a ſerious putting it to the teſt, Copper may paſſe for currant, as well as gold. Some further argument might yet be added, oppoſing the relation; but ſhall rather be referred to ſome other convenience.

The deplorable Tragedie OF FLORIS The fifth, EARLE of *Holland*, *Zealand*, and *Lord* of *FRISLAND*.

AFter the Surpriſe and Death of *William* Earle of *Holland*, and *Cæſar* elect; *Floris* the fifth, of that Name, ſucceeded him, in reſpect of his Infancy, being with all his Dominions, committed to the tutelage of his Uncle *Floris* Preſident of *Holland*; and the ſame who exployted heretofore ſo gloriouſly upon the Flemmings at

at West-Chappel; which Protector wrought so strict a confederacy between *Holland* and *Flanders* that by vertue thereof; *Guy* of *Dampire* was freed from his imprisonment; and besides other Articles it was likewise concluded, that either his young Nephew *Floris*, or else he himself should marry *Beatrice* Daughter to the said *Guy*, and in dower with her be possessed of whatsoever right or title he either had, or pretended to have in the Isles of *Zealand*: shortly after which ageement, the glorious *Vice-Roy* being in a tournament mortally wounded, deceased at *Antwerp*; his Soveraingne office, as some report, being conferred upon *Henry* Duke of *Brabant*, great Uncles son to the Infant Earl; but such distast (say they) gave the Insolency of his followers that he was in short time again depriv'd of it. Others there are (& very authenticall) that make no mention of him but immediatly upon the decease of *Floris*, produce *Alydt* Countess of *Henegaw*, and *Otto* Earl of *Gelders* in competition for the regency; this *Otto* was great Aunts son to *Floris*, and preferd by the *Hollanders* in respect of his sex; those of *Zealand* sided rather with the former *Alydt*, (dowager of *Iohn* of *Avesnes* (King *Williams* Sister, avouching her to bee the next of bloud; & so resolute was either partie, that it was soon brought to the doubtfull issue of a battaile, in which there fell many of both sides but the *Hollanders* prevailing, Count *Otto* was confirm'd. During whose goverment, and the nonage of their Prince, the Commons of *Kermerland Westfizland* and *Watterland* impleated together like

a hedge of Thornes, ſo malepertly bandied againſt the Nobility and Gentrie, threatning to depreſs all ſwelling titles, to levell all degrees; that like a furious ſodaine torrent they ruinated many of their Townes, Forts and Caſtles, enforcing them for refuge into the Citie of *HARLEM*: now this outragious multitude flying thus like a cloud of locuſts through the whole country, and at length into the Signiorie of *Æmſteli**; preſſed ſo peremptorily upon *Ghisbert* Lord of it, that concluding the preſent neceſſity for a vertue, he placed himſelf in their head to be their leader; and after the ſige of *Uredeland-Schonce*, drew them directly to the wealthy Citty of *Utrecht*: where at their firſt approach, they likewiſe ſo wrought with thoſe birds of their owne feather, the communalty; that through a mutuall compliance, forty of their cheiſe Genty and Governours, were ſuddenly chaſed forth the Ports; and both new Lawes enacted, and among the tradeſmen new Officers alſo elected, to countenance, and maintaine them in their due force and vertue. Whereupon *John* Biſhop of that Province (perſonally aſſiſted by Count *Otto* Protector of *Holland*) reſolving to reſtore the baniſh'd optimacy, and with condigne puniſhment repay this unruly rout, advanced towards them quartering at *Zeyſt*; but upon information that their numbers were now further augmented by thoſe of *Æmerfford* and *Æmeland*, he retreated again to the *Veliew* intending there an increaſe of his own: which as yet held no due proportion with ſuch

* In which *Æmſtellredam* (now *Amſterdam*) was afterward founded.

ſuch an imployment. In the interim *Ghisbert* of *Æmſtell* (having firſt applied this opportunity to the bringing about of his own private ends, and ruinated the poſſeſſions of *Ghisbert* of *Alcoude*, *William* of *Ryſenbourg*, and *Hubert* of *Viana* his enemies) begane cunningly to perſwade a ſurceaſe of any other violence; and the motion becomming more plauſible in reſpect of harveſt neere at hand, with a generall inclination of providing ſeaſonably for their abſent families; they now relented from the former pertinacy, being againe affectionately homeward bound: yet when in this retreat, approaching *Harlem* where the Nobles and Gentry were then fortified, the view of it gave ſuch freſh fire to their fury, that recollecting and newly rallying their ſcatter'd multitude, they preſſed it ſuddainly with ſeverall and ſharp aſſaults; but by the noble defendants were ſtill as couragiouſly beaten off; this continuing till *John* of *Perſin* an adventurous Knight, iſſuing out in the nights obſcurity, and by ſurpriſe enabling himſelfe with a ſutable proportion of their waggons, hurried preſently into *Kermerland*, the principall place of their aboad, conſuming many of their villages with a mercileſs fire; diſmai'd at which diſaſter, they precipitately break up, and leaving both their tents and baggage behind them, fled directly homeward, the *Harlemers* beating upon their reare and putting many to the ſword, taking many priſoners, and much booty. Upon which diverſion, and diſheartening of the maine, Biſhop

John

John and Count *Otto* being ſtiil ſolicitous for the bye, ſate downe with their Army before *Utrecht*, intending a reſtitution of the Priſtine Goverment; but ſoon after (as a more fitting task for their ſmall numbers,) diſlodg'd againe, laying their ſiege rather to *Emerford*, which town having much incenſed the Earl Protector, with ſome ſcandalls caſt upon his reputation, was by many daily ruins compell'd at length, to an unwilling ſubmiſſion; and herewithall, as either ſomewhat appeaſed, or diſtruſtfull of any further ſucceſſe, the Biſhop departed to *Deventer*, and Count *Otto* likewiſe elſewhere; ſo deferring over the reducement of *Utrecht*, that in tract of time it became the worke of another hand; for about three yeares after this inſurrection, *Sweder* of *Boſichem* a noble Knight, aſſiſted by the late baniſhed *Vtricians*, did in the night and by ſcalado make a re-intrie, where between the oppoſite parties there enſued a bloudy conteſtation, till *Sweder* and his partiſans at length prevailing, the mutinous were diſpoſſeſſed, their erected counſell diſſolv'd, and ancient Magiſtrates remitted to their former honours and offices; finally, though ſoone after, the ſeditious made another ſecret reentrie cauſing much blood ſhed, yet *Claes* of *Catts* (upon the late deceaſe of Earl *Otto*, now Regent of *Holland*) forcing the ports, interpoſs'd himſelfe as an awfull arbitrator, and by the ſevere expulſion of more then a thouſand bourghers, ſetled it again in a flouriſhing proſperity.

After the depreſſion of which impudent uproare,

Floois being novv of riper years and more ſufficiency, removing others from the helme of Government, undertook the ſteerage of it himſelf; and induced by the zeal of recovering his fathers body, revenging his death, and for an utter conſternation of ſuch continuall and bloody mutinies, ſped him vvith a convenient Army into *Weſt-Frieſland*, vvhere at *Veronen* neer *Alckmaer* the Rebels bade him battaile, and ſlaughtring five hundred of his men, had the reſt likevviſe in chaſe; but e're they could entitle it an entire victory, the *Hollanders* like a turning tide making head anevv, prevail'd both to check the purſuit, and diſtreſſe the purſuers; eight hundred *Freiſlanders* were ſlain at this ſecond charge, and the Prince likevviſe having loſt many of quality, though fevver in number, vvas for the preſent contented thus to return again into *Holland*: vvhere after ſome intervenient paſſages (of vvhich his being Knighted at *Hertogen Boſch* and compelling his Aunt *Alydt* and her children to leave the Land, vvere moſt remarkable) obſerving that *John* Biſhop of *Utrecht*, though both juſtly and as reſolutely bent againſt *Ghyſbert* of *Æmſtell* and *Haermon* of *Woorden* oppoſing him, came yet ſhort of his ends, as being vvorſted in the conteſtation; he vvith his forces made up the Biſhops ſide, falling on reſolutely upon *Uredeland* one of their ſtrongeſt pieces, vvhere the Lord *Arnold* brother to *Ghyſbert* commanding in chief, and gave ſo good account of his valour, that *FLORIS* miſdoubting (as it ſeemes) that the ſiege might bee

drawn out in length, ſent for the Lord *Coſtin* of *Reneſſe*, and a recruite of *Zealanders*, wherewithall to thicken his body, and preſs it the ſtreighter; which ſupply being way-laid by *Ghysbert*, and oppoſed at *Loenen*, there befell between them a ſharp encounter, and with much blood-ſhed; wherein thoſe of *Zealand* ſo bravely hewed out the day, that *Ghyſbert* and many of his partiſans, were driven to render themſelves demanding quarter; and as a fruit of this victory, *Arnold* now deſpairing of any reſcue, ſubmitted both himſelf and the Fort to *Floris*, who having ſtrengthned it with all neceſſaries, as a further part of the work ſtill behind, drew preſently with his Army towards the ſecond Colleager, intending as they were birds of the ſame feather, ſo likewiſe to involve *Haermon* of *Woorden* in the ſame fortune: but this wary Lord deliberately weighing the Princes power, and how dangerous it was for an earthen pot to combat with an Iron pillar; wiſely gave way, retreating into forraigne parts; howſoever his eſtate being importable, and ſince *Mountfort* eſpecially was ſo tough a pile, as might ſet a brighter Gloſſe upon the Princes Sword; here did he next engage his forces, attempting it with all poſſible Gallantry; yet were the defendants ſo compleated with fortification, ammunition, and reſolution, that he ſubdued it not, but at the rate of almoſt a years ſiege, and then by ſtorming; ſuch a circumſtance as giving more fire to fury, almoſt made a generall ſlaughter of the defendants; nor was the Prince appea-

ſed, till upon the dayly haraſſing of *Haemons* Eſtate, the Colleagers were at length contented to receive conditions, deſcending (and upon ſufficient caution, even the loſſe of all their Temporal ſubſiſtance) to reſtore whatſoever they detained from the Biſhop; never after to bandy either againſt the Biſhop or Prince; and in reſpect of his late loſſe, and long expence, to hold of him in Soveraignty, and become his homagers. Thus was the ſtorme now overblown, and there enſued a great ſerenity, for though this compact of theirs was but formall, and with a pad ſtill lurking in the ſtraw of reconciliation, yet *Floris* dealt ſo really both in forgiving, and even forgetting all miſdemeanours; that as a witneſſe of it, and his extraordinary favour, they were afterwards admitted by him into ſo full and neer a truſt, as even to become of his intimate counſell.

Nay ſo much was both his confidence and courage heightned up by this ſucceſſe, uſhering to more & greater victories, that now again he made another attempt upon the rebellious *Freiſlanders* and as revenge though being often ſlow, does yet at length ſtrike ſure; they were ſoon after ingaged, and twice routed by Him: Firſt, at *Scellinghout*, the ſecond time, & with remarkable ſlaughter at *Hooghwoud*; where having alſo recovered his fathers body, another principal, the next care was to ſee it royally interred among thoſe of his anceſtors, and to this end he now deſcended his ſecond time back into *Holland*, reſpiting the further finall

finall proſecution till ſome other convenience, which after was preſented by an extraordinary accident; for though abundance of water had hitherto in reſpect of their broken ſituations, delivered their ſtubborn necks from the yoake, yet now this fickle Element changing ſides, was wrought up to ſuch a deſtructive innundation; and being inraged with tempeſt, eat ſo fatally through their bankes and defenſatives; that the Country lay depreſt under the weight of a miſerable deluge, ſuffocating even the wofull number of almoſt eighty thouſand perſons: ſo that *Floris* being upon this ſcean of entry, prompted again into action; deputed *Dirick* Baron of *Brederoode*, with a convenable armado, to trie whether the rebelion might yet at length, by this new and navall kind of warfare receive an ultimate end. And of ſuch induſtry was this Commander, ſo skilfull in the manage of his advantages; that by preſſing the *Frieſes* now both home and ſuddainly while uncompoſed, and looſely ſcatter'd in this raging deluge, they finally were brought to reaſon; both rendring hoſtages, for their future obedience, and having ſuch courſer manicles, ſuch Forts and Caſtles ſcateringly impoſ'd upon the country, as might prevent all enſuing diſloyalty: yet ſo rough and inflexible was this people, that through all theſe heavy tyes, with (to boote) an oath of allegiance yielded; they conld hereafter break again into their former madneſs.

Now *Floris* whether inſtigated by a youthfull heat,

heate, to ſearch that Southern ſea which had ſo newly ſwallowed all the tract between *Enchuſen* & *Staveren*; or as occaſion was offered to make himſelfe ſtill more conſiderable by any improvement of eſtate; made another voyage ſoon after into that further and more eaſterly *Frieſland*; where at his ſitting down before *Staveren*, the citizens obſerving with how much felicity he hitherto had carried his deſignes, and rather chooſing his ſoft embraces, then his rigid armes; ſet all their ports open acknowledging him for their liege and ſoveraigne Lord, whereby they were ſo high advanced in the Princes opinion, that as a requitall, hee likewiſe raiſed the ſplendor of their city, decoring it with many extraordinary rights and priviledges.

Yet was he not nor ſo high above diſcourſe, and oppoſition, but upon this arrive again at the *Hague*, ſeverall collected humours, and of dangerous conſequence, were both in *Holland and Zealand*, gathering head againſt him: and with more aſſurance, becauſe ſeconded by *Guy Dampire* Earle of *Flaunders*, for though in perſuance of ſome former articles, the Prince had taken his daughter *Beatrice* to wife, receiving with her in dowry, all ſuch right and title as the ſaid *Guy* pretended to in *Zealand*, and was accordingly the firſt that writ himſelfe Earl of it; yet this his father in law, whether repining ſtill at the tranſaction of his intereſt in the ſaid country; or new accended by ſome long hidden embers, for his former defeat at *West-Chappell*; or elſe envious at his ſons ſucceſſe, and to keep him

him more in ballance, was ſtill ready at the back-doore to ſcant the gale of his glory. And thus did he now peece in with *Wolfard* of *Veere*, *John* of *Reneſſe*, *Florence* of *Borſelem*, and ſome other of his ſubjects, pretending a reformation of ſeverall grievances; but doubtleſſe having ſome other hidden reſpects, which thoſe his inuſherers muſt likewiſe ſwallow, or elſe perhaps be ſlaved at length and ſwallowed of an arbitrary goverment, the intruding nips and twitches whereof, wrought (as it ſeemes) this their preſent compliance with the ſaid *Flemiſh* Earle; who likewiſe upon ſo promiſing an opportunity, wafted his army over into the Iſland of *Walcherin*, endeavoring the repoſſeſſion thereof, and as a leading card, firſt to ſeize *Mydleborge* the Metropolis; or I may call it elſe the Cabinet, in which *Floris* had at the preſent entruſted both his Lady *Beatrice* and her ſon *John*, his richeſt Jewels. The news of whoſe danger ſo throughly netled him, that he preſently ſet ſaile for *Zealand*, hoping yet ſuch another ſea victory as by levelling the *Flemmings* with the *Frieſes*, might both right himſelf and relieve his friends: but upon the pithie mediation of *John* Duke of *Brabant*, this martiall heate was ſoone after diſſolved into ſuch a treaty of peace, as perhaps vvas one of thoſe hidden coals vvhich at length kindled the Princes deſtruction. For the paſſionate Flemiſh Earl, being vvedded to his ovvn vvicked vvayes, made a trap of a treaty; & breaking over all bounders, all caution of free egreſs and regreſs: as ſoon as *Floris* vvas entred into

Bieruliedt

Bieruliedt, the place appointed to debate in; forceably ſeiz'd him for his priſoner; and this (as it appears by the conſequence) without any redemption unleſs by yielding to very rigid conditions; inſomuch that *Floris* like a twigge in a tempeſt, bowing that he might not break; was content to ſlubber himſelfe out of bondage, by complying with any demands whatſoever, yet even this alſo wrought not effectually, till *Iohn* of *Brabant* had engag'd himſelfe for the performance. Which over-doing of the premiſes, was an undoing to the ſequell; for the relentment of this treacherous coertion ſo cut him to the quick, that when free again and at liberty, he flatly diſavowed all former covenants, alleadging they were violently obtrued and by dures; and pinning what prejudice he might upon his pledge the Brabander, as one ſuſpected to have a hand knuckle deep in this diſaſter, theſe indignities; by which, the buſie Duke (as ſome report) was again irritated to concur with others in his after downfall. For though the preſent inſurrection was now wethered out, his malecontents being pacified and reaſſured, yet had *Floris* other enemies more cloſe and much more fatall, of which hereafter in the peculiar place, we being now to proceed in a more plauſible key. For ſuch viciſſitudes are there in the ſtory of humanity that the former ſhower thus overblown, a gracious Sun-ſhine, a ſcean of joy and gladneſs is next to take the ſtage. The principall Actor whereof, was *Dirick* Earle of *Cleve*, who about this

this time made his deſcent into *Holland*, to congratulate the ſafety of his Nephew *Floris*; and well might this require great feſtivity, ſince he gave him not onely a bare viſit, but as a further token of his intimate affection, both the town and fort of *Workum* upon the river *Wahall*; and alſo the ſigniory of *Hueſden* and *Altena*: paſſing them over to be members of *Holland* and diſmiſſing *John* the ſeventh of that name, Lord of *Hueſden*, to become his Nephews homager.

After which againe *Floris* had ſtill other Irons in the fire, and of much more concernment, entitling him to a far higher ſoveraignty; For the late deceaſe of *Alexander* King of *Scotland* and his iſſue lineall, imbarking *Baliol*, *Bruce*, and Six other collaterall heirs in a competition for that Kingdome; *Floris* as one of the pretenders, and a Crown being now at the ſtake; that he might play the beſt of his game, bore up preſently for *England*; where no doubt but his deſcent from *Floris* the third, and his Wife *Ada*, Daughter to *Henry*, eldeſt ſon to *David* firſt of that name King of *Scots*, was to King *Edward* Longſhanks, (ſole Arbiter in the cauſe depending) pathetically pleaded and put home: but when upon ſecond thoughts perceiving how inconvenient it might be to tranſplant from his ancient center, and ſettle in a wild and barren Country, full of Feuds and partialities; eſpecially obſerving with what obſtructions his ſute was ſuffocated by the Scottiſh party, he became from more indifferent; and at length ſo

key-cold in the proſecution that upon the former Motives, King *Edwards* adviſe, and a Compoſition tendred; he was contented to ſit down and make over his intereſts laying out his after time & toyl at better rates, and more aſſurance.

Particularly with ſuch ſucceſs in a Treaty of marriage between the Lady *Elizabeth* King *Edwards* Daughter and his ſone *Iohn*; that their being mutually contracted, was an occaſion of much joy and ſtrengthning to his friends, to his enemies of ſuch diſpite and envy; that *Guy Dampire* began here to ſhew his teeth again; *Walcheren* the jangling bone betwixt them, might now perhaps be reduced upon eaſier conditions; the Shepheard was abſent and the ſheep more open to ſurprize. O but yet his deputies were ſo couragious and vigilant, that *Derick* Baron of *Brederoode* ſurnamed the Gentle, and *Iohn* Lord of *Reneſſe*, with ſodaine and proportionable levies, interpoſed themſelves upon the frontire. Whether alſo *Floris* upon a ſwift intelligence (as ill news do commonly make good wing) incontinently wafted over, and finding his father *Guy* ſalne from his ſpeed, and ſitting faſt within his Quarters, became the more confident; imploying *Reneſſe* with part of his Army into *Flanders*, *Brederoode* with the reſt into *Cadſant*: where the firſt having fired *Sluis*, the tother plundered all the countrey adjoyning; they then with a rallied body, ſpurr'd in ſo roughly upon the *Flemmiſh* Forces, that for the moſt part they were drown'd, ſlaine, or taken upon quarter. Some Authors

thors there are, which differing in the relation, ſpeak indeed of the Princes Engliſh voyage and ſale ofhis Scotiſh title, but defer the former contract of marriage till after this victory, which they likewiſe ſituate in a different place, ſaying that at the flame of *Sluys*, and her devaſted confines, the Flemmiſh reſolution took ſuch fire, that wafting over with a divertive war into *South-Beverland*, they there were payed for their pains as formerly; and then did *Floris*, (the rather to deter any ſubſequent incurſion) contract with *England*, ſending thither his ſon *John*, and obtaining (as a thing caſt in upon the by) that the Engliſh Wool-ſtaple, (in revenew a kind of Golden fleece,) ſhould be tranſported to his city of *Dort*; whence (ſay they) it was erelong againe removed to *Mechelen*, the reaſon becauſ *Floris* either led by the vaſt fees of *France*, (as ſome report it) or upon ſome pretenſions againſt *England*, which they would have to overballance any former confederation, (as ſome others) changing his copy, became a profeſt partiſan to *Phillip* the Faire, King *Edwards* utter enemy. This I ſay is likewiſe recorded, and by a good hand: yet will I preſſe nothing upon the readers belief, but leaving him freely to make his owne election, and what uſe he pleaſe, of theſe inſerted pieces, I return againe with my firſt author, to diſh out the fruit attain'd by this precedent victory; and ſo fair a ſettl'd calm enſu'd upon it, that *Foris* having deliberately lin'd his frontire with redoubts and ſconces, to prevent the like future invaſion: elected now after the

winter tempeſtuous ways of war to repoſe a while in the ſummer paths of peace: but here alas he met vvith many pert and poyſonous reptil's vvhich in his aſperous vveather kept cloſe in their holes, being deſpicably dull and frozen. The tragick ſequall will ſufficiently cleare it; to proceed with which, though Princes purpoſſes are often changeable, yet this retiring was in *Floris* ſo bent a reſolution, that he withdrew accordingly to the *Hague*, where no doubt but his palace rung out with plaudits and Iubilations, eſpecially at the next day of our *Saviours Nativity*: when having for the more magnificence ſummoned to him forty of his wealthieſt *Hollanders*, and beſt reputed of; he with them held a high and open court, in cloſe of all, and as a crown to the feaſt, giving each of them the order of Knight hood. And though this action of his were ſufficiently back'd with reaſon of ſtate, as being firſt to rear a new ſucceſſive gentry for what had often falne in *Frieſland*, *Flanders*, and by the poyſon of a late epidemicall diſeaſe, as alſo to vindicate his prerogative, and raiſe the ſhoulders, upon which he himſelf might ſtand ſafe and higher; yet was it much diſtaſted by thoſe of ancient Knighthood and deſcent: they would needs cenſure it, an overtentring of ſo fine a web as that of honor, reproaching him accordingly to be the clunches god. And among theſe malignants that nefarious *Gerrit* of *Velſon* was unappeaſable, for though perhaps this exception may ſeem but triviall, yet his brother had by the Princes command, ſuffered formerly

formerly under the hand of the headſman; nay *Gerrit* himſelfe as joyntly criminall, was then alſo miſerably clouded with almoſt a yeares impriſonment; and though at length the proofes of his innocencie cleared it up again, and *Floris* ſought with many perpendicular beams of his favour, to expiate all former grievances; yet was his rage implacable, briſtling by degrees into as helliſh a fury, as ever ear has yet tingled with. To proceed articulately in the fatall proceſs whereof, as flatterers will have the faults of Princes like hills and dales in the Globe, undiſcernably ſwallowed up (for-ſooth) in their vaſtneſſe, and immenſity: ſo no doubt but *Floris* had ſome ſuch *Privadoes*, as while they pick'd the feathers from his Coate, could cheriſh ſundry beames within his eye;

Thus have I knowne a tuft of hungry twitch
So cloſely complicated with the roote
Of a red Nectorin, *or* Nutmeg *peach*
As could not thence alas be weeded out
Till it had ſtarv'd the Tree.

And thus did theſe alſo ſo brazenly debauch him that at length he ſtuck not to riot-out thoſe amorous embraces upon a * Concubine, which were onely due to his own deareſt Lady. And if he that ſteales though even to ſatisfie his hunger, ſhall yet be puniſht ſcaven fold; what elſe could follow ſuch an adulterous ſurfeit but far greater caſtigation,

* Having a baſe ſon by her from whom the Lords of *Hamſted* in *Zealand* are deſcended.

tion, and even to be made a publicke example for the future as ſoone after befell *Floris*. For whether through the force, the flaſhes of a guilty Conſcience, or that he found a ſaciety, a nauſcouſneſſe in his unlawfull miſtris, or what elſe might be the cauſe, he concluded at length to forbeare her further company; but this both in reſpect of her deſcent (as being reported to be Daughter to the Lord of *Heuſdem*,) and ſome other motives, muſt be done in the faireſt manner, and by marrying her to ſome ſuch perſon, whoſe quality might the rather-ſoder up her reputation. Now ſince *Gerrit* conſidering the many royall obligations conferr'd upon him, might be thought more tractable; this was the party pitch'd upon, to him is the motion made; and here the bone but diſſemblingly knit a-while, was againe unrecoverably broken: ſince he not only anſwered in the negative, as diſdaining to be cobbled up with a caſt ſute? but returning courſly upon the Prince againe, by naming her his Whore ſo boyl'd him up to ſuch a ſinfull pertinacy; that he as ſudainly replyed, and yet in deſpight of ſuch a coy and queaſie ſtomack, even to my Whore ſhalt thou be married: howſoever *Gerrit* neglecting what was ſaid, as but the Vapor of an heady Paſſion, match'd himſelf ſoon after ſhould with the daughter of *Haermon* of *Woorden*; that ſhould the Coales ſo lately kindled, break out into a flame he might either ſmother it by the power of his allies or allay it by their mediation. But this againe) ſince *Haermon* had formerly contracted not to match

matcht her without the Princes conſent,) was rather to poure oyle upon it then water; & became ſuch a ſecond provocation, that *Floris* was ſtill more deſperately bent, fall back fall edge, to perpetrate what he formerly had threatned. And having throughly caſt his Cards, ſo put the pack upon *Gerrit*; that by removing him as an Ambaſſador, and under a pretence forſooth of honor, into forreigne parts; there enſued a freer opportunity to viſit his houſe of *Cronningborg*, and trie what mettle his Lady was made of; which (as appeares by the ſequell, was farr from adulterate, and of ſo pure an allay,) as might have challeng'd a far nobler valuation, then to be made an example of miſerable virtue; for the peremptory Prince when his ſmooth and ſofter way of court-ſhip ſorted not; putting all diſguiſes apart, would needs ruſh deſperately upon the forbidden fruit and crop it off by the ſalvage way of raviſhment; relinquiſhing the poor unhappy Creature, ſo torn upon the racke of reproach and lamentation; that *Gerrit* at his returne was likewiſe ſwallowed in the ſame bottomleſſe Sea of ſorrow; ſolemnly vowing a moſt ſevere revenge, and by tearing open old ſoars, engaging *Haermon* his Father in law, his Uncle *Ghisbert*, and others in the conſpiracie.

Thus ſmooth runs the old *Hollands* Cronicle, yet are ſome conſiderable Criticks very jealous of the rape pretended, as what neither **Beca*, nor the rime *Cronicler* have taken any notice of; they will have the Dutch disjunctives *over* and *ſpell*, ſignifi-

* Two authentick Chronicklers living neereſt to thoſe times

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ing pleaſantly, or in ſport: to have been by the heedleſs Tranſcriber conjoyn'd entire, and into *overſpell*, which is adultery; and then (the context with a little ſtreſſe, being ſome what inclinable,) 'tis likely [ſay they) that this miſtake of the Writer this unfortunate connection, has thus prodigiouſly disfigured *Floris*, adding a root of Wormwood to his other bitterneſs; and this they preſſe more confidently, becauſe there was ſufficient other fewell to ſtoake up the combuſtion; *Ghisbert* of *Æmſtell* how cunningly concealing it, being ſtill incens'd for the loſe of *Uredeland*, *Haermen* of *Woorden* for *Montfort* both which reflected heavily upon *Floris*; then muſt the harſh extermination of his Aunt *Alidt* & her children, needs foment a further heart-burning, as did alſo his flattering out of honour, ſince to take from a multitude to the preferment of a few, without other inſtigation then meer mony-bag, then the gold ring ſo familiarly found in a ſwines ſnowt, occaſions likewiſe a prejudiciall gathering of humors: neither could *John* Lord of *Hueſden*, but be very ſenſible of his daughters deduction to the diſhonorable condition of a concubine, beſides tis probable enough that ſome of thoſe exaſperated ſpirits riſing heretofore with *Guy Dampire* were not yet conſiderably layed, which manifold diſtemper being now obſerved by *Gerrit* of *Velſon*, he with the leaven of his wrath and malice ſo further ſowred the whole lumpe, that this (I ſay) will the ratherinduce a favorable criticiſme: yet whether ſuch a rebated foyle may

may be weapon enough to profligate Antiquity, traverſing the former blacke inditement againſt *Floris*, is ſtill ſubject to ſo much diſcourſe and litigation that I muſt diſmiſſe it with a Quere, reentring now againe where I ſo lately left that maſter wheele *Gerrit* of *Velſon*, working the ſubordinate conſpirators into action.

Which he did with more facilitie, and they alſo became the greater confidents, becauſe *Floris* had now runne the diſpleaſure of his neereſt and ableſt neighbours; *Edward* of *England*, and *Guy Dampire* being both diſtaſted, for his late ſiding with *Phillip* the faire King of *France* and then againe *John* Duke of *Brabant* for waveing the treaty of *Beiruliedt* & ſwitching him up by it from being but a pledg, to more become the principall. In a word, theſe Princes though otherwiſe cautive enough, yet were here ſo little coy to ſwell up the malignity, & relieve it with ſupport & countenace that *Gerrit* of *Velſon* was imploy'd to *Camerik*, there to conſult their ſeverall agents, about the managing a piece ſo ponderouſly open to conſtruction: where finally the embrion was wrought into forme, it being concluded, that *Floris* ſhould by ſurpriſall be perpetually impriſon'd in *England*, and his ſonne *John* (King *Edwards* ſonne in law) ſettled in the Government. And ſo wiſe are the children of this world in their Generation, that this was attempted ſoone after, by the vigor of a double artifice, the former being to remove him from his preſent ſhelter, the ſecond to ruine him with

open prejudice; & thus his convenienter arbitrating in a difference, between the comfraters *Ghiſbert* and *Haermon*, with the houſe of *Zuline*; firſt inveigled him forth of *Holland* to the City of *Utrecht*, where there was then another ſilken ſnare as ready piteh'd, to ſeiſe and ſequeſter him at pleaſure; nay ſo paſſionatly cruell is reveng that his cataſtrophe yet was alas far more miſerable. To relate the particulars, *Floris* while thus imploy'd in *Utrecht*, being after a cheerefull dinner retired and layd upon his bed, little dreaming of the bitter cup he was ſuddainly to drinke of; behold that ſubtile *Synon*, *Gisbert* of *Emſtell*, preſſing in upon him, with a pretence of much wild foule, and faire flying nere at hand; ſo winninly bated his inclination, that he ſoone after left the City, and as precipitately fell into the ſnare: inſtead of other game finding onely ſuch prodigious birds of prey, as made himſelfe become the quarry. For with ſome few followers being once paſt the ports, and within compaſſe of the traine forelay'd, lo *Ghiſbert* of *Emſtell* *Haermon* of *Woorden*: *Gerrit* of *Velſon*, *Hugh* of *Beirland*, *Arent* of *Benſcop* and *William* of *Zaenden*, aſſiſted by many men in armes, had ſodainly ſorrounded him beyond evaſion, and though *Floris* with ſword in hand couragiouſly lalaboured his own defence; yet did that Arch viper *Velſon*, and his treacherous abettors; ſo much with imparity of number and preparation, over-power him, that his perſon was ſeiz'd, and ſecretly conveyed to the houſe of *Muden*, thence againe to be

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ſhippe'd for *England*, But the violence offered to Princes being of a ſpreading a diffuſive quallity, could ſo little be conceal'd, that all that quarte preſently was in uproare; reſolving both his reſcue and revenge; and perſuing it with ſo much acrimony, that though the traytors upon the paſſionate ſcore of feare and guiltineſs hurried away thir priſoner, and for more ſecurity, through blind and devious places, yet were they dangerouſly gathered on, eſpecially by the Troops of *Narden*, but alas, ere they came within diſtance, and to grapple, *Floris* being by his black guard compell'd to take a ditch, and ſo rigorouſly bound the while and poorely mounted, as might rather beſeeme his miſery then his leape: fell ſo deepely be-muddered in the midſt, that the traitors being puzzl'd with it and the neare engagement, diſtractedly left him, ſhifting each as he could for ſafety; only that villain *Velſon*, was ſo helliſhly perverted into rancour and revenge, that he parted not, till with his owne hand (I tremble to ſpeak it,) he here had broach'd the body of his own Soveraigne, with one and twenty mortall wounds; which being perpetrated, he fled likewiſe upon the ſpur to ſhelter himſelfe at his houſe of *Cronnenbourgh*. The loyall *Kermers* arriving ſoone after, found their Illuſtrious *Floris*, and ſo lately brighted with a world of bleſſings, now but owner of a little fainting breath and even for that alſo, life and death in contention. Some of them plunging into the bloody bath where he lay, handed him up to land; others were

againe as zealous in apprehending ſuch as *Gerrit* and the reſt had left behind, and even in the view of wofull *Floris*, repaying their villany with a bitter death, Himſelfe now unrecoverably drawing on, they conveighed backe to the houſe of *Mudenbourgh*, where he left to ſtickle farther in this miſrable world.

And having thus folded him up in his leaden ſheete, it may be pertinent enough, if after this ruthfull ſtory, I now ſeeke to recreate the reader with an inſerted paſſage, of as much humanity in beaſts as there was brutiſhneſſe in theſe men. For *Floris* had at that time of his ominous ſurpriſe, a brace of ſuch loyall loving Greyhounds with him, as attended him firſt to the houſe of *Muden*, thence to the diſmall ditch of his many wounds; thence to the place of his expiration; ſtill preferring his perſon beyond his proſperity: nay ſo loyall were theſe poore creatures in their retribution, that when againe his corps was ſhipped for *Alkmaer* they went aboord with it, landed with it, ſtill attended it; and after a neceſſarily embowelling and imbalming, (becauſe all further and ultimate cermonies were to waite the Princes arrivall out of *England*;) when I ſay it was after this placed in the Church-quier; ſo preſiſtant were they in their affectionate ſervice, that they layed themſelves down at the feet of the Beer, continuing there with ſuch an obſtinate refuſall of all profer'd ſuſtenance that had they not been forceably removed, a voluntary famiſhment had quickly render'd them as inſenſible

inſenſible, as the reliques of their deceaſed maſter: O! how ſtrange and un-extinguiſhable was this love, this gratitude, and accordingly to be cut in braſſe, and carved in marble? how did theſe ſilly creatures ſeeme reaſonable by the little ſparke of ſence, while thoſe men became brutiſh maugre the radient flame of reaſon; whence I now muſt ſower my diſcourſe againe, relating of ſcaffolds, axes, wheels, the rigid proſecutors of their incorrigible pravity. For ſuch a dreadfull piece is treaſon, that as the bullet of it does a world of miſcheife point-blank, the breech alſo recoyles often and outragiouſly upon the firer, beating him over beyond any recovery; examples to this purpoſe are frequent enough, and thus I ſay our preſent *Velſoners* were likewiſe buried in the ruins of that pallace, which they had ſo trecherouſly overthrown. For ſo loud did the bloud of *Floris* cry for vengeance, that his Aunts ſon *Iohn* of *Aveſnes*, Lord of *Henegaw*, would loſe no time, but was ſoone after with his *Henewayes*, and their black and bloudy colours facing the houſe of *Cronnenbourg*. Whether the Earle of *Cleve* deſcended alſo with an additionall power, and as zealouſly thirſting for revenge. And though by ſome partiall mediations it was after ſomewhat ſlackned, and woed to more remiſſnes; yet was this pang of unſeaſonabe lenity as quickly over againe, and there enſued ſuch a bitter generall aſſault, that the troops, by ſtorming in, recovered both the viper *Velſon*, and many of

of his partiſans. Neither ſtayed they here, but being ſtill jealous of *Dericks* facility, and that ſome jugling ſhould be uſed in behalfe of the priſoners, drew againe tumultuarily to their armes, bluntly denouncing, that whoſoever obſtructed the rightfull courſe of juſtice, ſhould likewiſe anſwer it with the loſe of his own deareſt blood; ſo that this boyſterous commotion could not otherwiſe be level'd, then by ſevering the priſoners to their immediate execution in the manner following. Thoſe of *Dort* had *Hugh* of *Baerland*, the *Kermers William* of *Teile*, with two others; thoſe of *Delph William* of *Zaendin*, the *Harlemers Arent* of *Benſcoop*, the Count of *Cleve*, *Gerrit* of *Crayenhorſt* and others with him; the bodies of all which, after the Headſman had done his office, were expos'd upon as many wheels poſted up on high, ſo to be devoured by the naſtieſt kind of wormes, or elſe buried with other ſtinking carion in the gorges of Crowes, Kites, and other birds of prey. Concerning the bloody butcher *Velſon*; after he had made a publick and punctuall confeſſion of the former particulars, hee was diſpoſed of to the men of *Leiden*, who (that his puniſhment might beare ſome proportion with his offence,) inclos'd him in a tunne inveckedly lined with many ſharp pointed nailes, roling him thus like another *Attilius Regulus* through all their ſtreets; and after many other torments, beheaded and wheeled him up like his other confederates. This (I ſay) if wee take

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the old hollands chronicle for payment, was his miſerable end. But ſome there are who differ much in the relation; the rithme Cronicle will ſay, (and with probability enough;) that *Velſon* and *Zaenden* were upon the forcing of *Cronenbourge*, immediately wooried and ſlain by the raging multitude; another, namely *Beca* diſcourſes thus, *Gerardus de Velſon traditionem comitis in aperto confeſſus eſt ſeriatim, &, atq; idem Gerardus inter acerba ſupplicio dire rotatus eſt*: *Gerrit* of *Velſon* made a publick punctuall confeſſion of his villainy towards the Prince, and after many other bitter torments, was finally caſt out upon a wheel; ſo that the word *Rotatus* being an *Æquivox*, and ſuſceptible of ſeverall interpretations, hence perhaps has ſucceded theformer tale of a tub, ſo beſet with ſpikers. Neither did his perſon only paſſe the pikes of puniſhment, but inevitable vengeance proceeding yet further, thoſe of his blood were either compell'd to diſſemble their conſanguinity, or elſe baniſh'd into forrain countries; the bearing his Coate-armor was to al men and for ever interdicted; nay, even his place of aboade, the houſe of *Cronenbourgh*, was likewiſe utterly raced to the ground. Finally, though *Haermon* of *Woorden*, and *Ghiſbert* of *Æmſtell*, immediately ſhrunke into farraine parts, from the perſonall upbraids and brands of Juſtice; yet with the former *Gerrit*, their blood vvas both attainted, and thoſe of it exterminated; their Coate-armors vvere for ever interdicted, and their goods and Signiories

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forfeited to the L. *Paramont*; Prince *John*. To conclude *Haermon* of *Woorden* died an exile in great miſery and poverty; and *Ghliſbert* of *Æmſtel* groaning alſo under the ſame eternall baniſhment layed his gray head in a forraine grave.

FINIS.